



Main Street Monday!

Feb 16, 2016

Just a few items today. With the weather and other issues not much to report. Everyone stay safe and enjoy the warming trend coming our way!

Main Street position available in Dayton, KY
For more information go to:

<http://www.daytonky.com/visitors/employment->

Local Option on expanded Alcohol Sales will take place next Tuesday Feb 23rd in Harrodsburg.

TODAY is the last day to register to apply for ArtPlace America's National Creative Placemaking Fund!

[ArtPlaceAmerica](#) has \$10.5 million available for projects working with artists and arts organizations to build stronger, healthier communities anywhere in the U.S. If you or someone you know has a great project or idea please consider applying and sharing! <http://bit.ly/NCPF16>



We love a contest! Our friends at [Strong Towns](#) have come up with their own brand of March Madness. They ask: "Does your town exemplify Strong Towns principles like incremental growth, financial solvency and a safe, accessible transportation system? Are you a Strong Citizen who wants your town to get the recognition it deserves for being just plain awesome? This contest is about showcasing towns that are doing their best to be strong, that have the building blocks in place to be strong towns today and in the future." How far could your KY community make it through the bracket? Enter and we will follow along!



Strong Towns

How does your town stack up to others on the Strong Town principles? Enter our Strongest Town contest and find out!

http://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2016/2/1/announcing-a-new-competition-who-has-the-strongest-town?utm_content=buffer80a7c&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer

Did you know! ▪ Independent businesses in communities with an active “buy independent/buy local” campaign run by grassroots groups saw revenues grow by a stellar 7.4% in 2015 -- dwarfing the 4.2% increase for businesses in communities without such an alliance.

- 76% of business owners who actively market their participation in their group reported positive impact on their business, while just 17% of those who don't actively promote the effort saw benefit.
- Independent businesses reported a 5.3% increase in employment in 2015.

The full report, (15 pp pdf) is well worth reading, or see ILSR's summary. If your local group has not yet issued a localized news release to take advantage of this opportunity to build support for your work, ask us for a “plug-and-play” news release template. It's an opportunity not to miss!

AMIBA - The American Independent Business Alliance [\[mailto:News@AMIBA.net\]](mailto:News@AMIBA.net)

Top Retail Trends Webinar Announced for March 9th

Please join Chris Boring from Boulevard Strategies as he overviews the rapid changes occurring in the retail industry with a presentation of the top trends for 2016. This year's trends include the state of department stores, web retailers opening bricks and mortar stores, the rise of mobile commerce, the shopping habits of Millennials, and free same day package delivery, among others. Chris's presentation will also address the state of independent retailers and restaurants in Ohio's 82 non-urban counties as well as 10 things Main Street merchants need to do to remain relevant in the modern world. Whether you are a Main Street director, a Main Street merchant, or just someone who enjoys a little "retail therapy" once in a while, be sure to tune in for a fun and educational session. Webinars are free for [Heritage Ohio members](#) (you can become a member for \$25)

Want to share the great things you do with our neighbors to the north?

This conference is the week prior to our state conference.

Heritage Ohio is Seeking Presenters for the 2016 Annual Conference

Heritage Ohio's Annual Revitalization & Preservation Conference will be held Oct 10-12, 2016 in Cincinnati Ohio. Sessions will be 30, 60 or 75 minutes. The audience at the conference is expected to be 300. With concurrent sessions we would project 30-45 participants in an individual session. The audience is made up of: Main Street managers, main street board members, revitalization activists, municipal staff members, economic development professionals, historic preservation activists, developers, and preservation consultants. Session selections will be made by March 15, 2016. Selection criteria will be focused on downtown revitalization strategies, activity based sessions will be prioritized. For more information visit <http://www.heritageohio.org/2016-heritage-ohio-annual-conference-sessions-rfp/>

Community Development Funding Opportunities Through USDA Webinar Rescheduled to March 16th Another offering from Heritage Ohio

Small towns and rural areas often are underserved when it comes to accessing capital. Infrastructure, access to affordable housing, finding resources for community projects, and job creation are challenges many communities experience. USDA Rural Development is the federal agency tasked with assisting rural America. In fiscal year 2015 alone, we provided more than \$780 million in loans and grants to rural communities in Ohio. Our programs help businesses, communities, non-profits and individuals build capacity, create wealth and reduce poverty. USDA Rural Development specialists have vast experience identifying partners and then working together toward the betterment of Ohio's rural communities. We look forward to discussing how our programs may be able to help your community.

Several of you have worked with the CIRD (Citizens' Institute on Rural Design). These findings will be of interest to you.

Top 5 Lessons Learned About Rural Design

The 2014-2015 workshop year was a successful one for the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design™ (CIRD). In Franklin, New Hampshire; Lancaster County, Nebraska; Houston, Mississippi; and Alton, Missouri CIRD arrived to find communities buzzing with the desire to develop actionable plans to tackle their design challenges. [Read more http://rural-design.org/blog/top-five-lessons-we-learned-about-rural-design-2014-2015](http://rural-design.org/blog/top-five-lessons-we-learned-about-rural-design-2014-2015)

Frankfort: Do you know how special you are?

Published February 12, 2016 in the Frankfort Journal

By Steve Siler, for Downtown Frankfort, Inc.

You know that feeling you have when you first get a new car? It's so bright and shiny and smells so clean and runs so smoothly. For the first few weeks you think it's just about the greatest thing ever. Then weeks turn into months and months turn into years and pretty soon it's just a car and you begin to take it for granted. You don't really even see it anymore.

It's just there.

I think that can be true with a city too. You move there and at first you notice all the really cool things about it. Then after awhile it's just where you live and go through the routine of your life. If you were born there that's even truer.

It's where you've always lived. What's the big deal?

For years my wife and I have made a habit of traveling to charming towns on vacation. Usually staying at bed and breakfasts, we've spent our time browsing antique stores and art galleries, local museums and parks, and visiting the favorite restaurants of residents. While living in Nashville, Tenn., our experience of Kentucky had pretty much been limited to driving back and forth on Interstate 65, to and from



Downtown Frankfort

There was something else that struck me even more than the appeal of Frankfort's architecture. The unique geographical setting was like nothing I'd ever seen in any other American town even though I've traveled to all 50 states. The town was in a basin surrounded by sheer rock walls. It was as if God had taken an ice cream scooper and scooped downtown Frankfort out of the landscape.

My overall impression of Frankfort was so strong that I immediately called my wife and told her how cool it was. "We need to visit here sometime," I told her. Little did I know that nine years later we would be living in Frankfort!

Why am I telling you all this?

Because, even though I'm now a resident, I see Frankfort with fresh eyes. And I wonder if those of you who've lived here a long time realize the distinctive charm of the place you call home?

Do you realize the marvelous potential downtown Frankfort has?

Frankfort, do you know how special you are?

Perhaps, some of you do. If there is something special about Frankfort that you'd like us to feature in a future article/post, please let me know. Let's have pride in our wonderful town!

Steve Siler is a song writer, and founder and director of Music for the Soul, a non-profit music ministry. He is writing this column on behalf of [Downtown Frankfort, Inc.](#), a Kentucky Main Street program.

Division of Waste Management Requests Applications for Crumb Rubber Grants for Landscaping Projects

Application deadline is March 28, 2016

Frankfort, Ky. (Feb. 11, 2016) - The Energy and Environment Cabinet is accepting grant proposals for projects that promote the use of recycled waste tires for landscaping. Grant funds may be used to purchase crumb rubber mulch for landscaping projects.

Grant funding comes from the Waste Tire Trust Fund, an endowment established in 1998 by the Kentucky General Assembly to receive fees collected from new tire sales. The applicant will provide match funding equal to at least 25 percent of the project cost.

To a limited degree, the cabinet will also consider funding research and development proposals for experimental practices or technologies that further the statutory purposes of the waste tire program - to protect human health, safety and the environment - or that will help develop a market for Kentucky waste tires.

Applications must be received by 4:30 p.m. on March 28, 2016, at the Division of Waste Management's central office in Frankfort. The application and any supporting documentation must be submitted in order for the application to be considered. Applications can be mailed to Lisa Evans, Division of Waste Management, 200 Fair Oaks Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601.

For more information, phone Lisa Evans at 502-564-6716 or e-mail lisa.evans@ky.gov. Additional information and the grant application are online at the division's website: <http://waste.ky.gov/RLA/grants/Pages/default.aspx>.

Please see the following article that Constance Alexander wrote for *Kentucky Forward*. The Kentucky Local History Trust Fund, which will aid museums and local history organizations, is mentioned in this piece.

See here:

<http://www.kyforward.com/constance-alexander-when-the-facts-are-sparse-state-historical-society-there-to-set-us-straight/>

Please forward this to anyone who might be interested and please help us promote this program! Please consider writing a letter to the editor, adding information in your organization's newsletter, and emailing your board and members and asking them to help spread the word.

Many of you have already helped with this effort—thank you! However, we still need assistance in promoting this program. The more people who know, the more organizations we can help!

Sincerely,
Stuart Sanders



If you have not already done so, please like the new [Samuel Plato Academy of Historic Preservation Trades](#) Facebook page and take time to learn more about this exciting KHC program. February is African American History Month, and Plato (1882-1957) was an African American architect who made impressive contributions to the field working for the federal government and designing buildings for many uses and in many styles throughout the eastern U.S. He also lived in Louisville for a time, and eight of his buildings there are listed in the [National Register of Historic Places - NPS](#) including Broadway Temple A.M.E. Zion Church

